(e).Yes, Sir.

(f) The project Is currently under implementation in:

(i) Surend'ernagar-Gujarat'

(ii) Hampi-Kamataka

(iii) Birbhum-Kolkata

(iv) Kozikode-Kerala

(v) Dhar-Madhya Pradesh

Setting up of Fusion of Art in Chhattisgarh

†3482. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Chhattisgarh has sent any proposal for the constitution of Fusion of Art;

(t>) if so, by when it is likely to be accepted; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTJLES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On receipt of complete documents from the Chhattisgarh Hastshilp Vikas Board, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, the proposal will be evaluated for sanction as per norms.

Constitution of committee for weavers

3483. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of fndia promised to appoint a committee to look in the causes of distress facing by the weaving community in the country particularly the handloom sector;

(b) if so, whether **a** committee has been constituted; and

(c) if constituted, what is the brief of the committee and by when it has to submit **a** report and what is the progress in this regard?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the Government of India has constituted All India Handloom Board since 1992 to advise the Government in the formulation of the overall development programme in the handloom sector keeping in view socio-economic cultural and artistic perspective. Representatives of all the stake holders and eminent persons connected with the handloom sector are appointed as its member. The meetings of the Board are regularly held under the chairmanship of Minister to Textiles. The advice given by the Board is kept in view while makfhg policy and programmes for the promotion and development of handloom sector and welfare of handloom weavers.

The Government of India has been implementing a number of schemes for promotion and development of the handloom Sector and welfare of handloom weavers, such as, Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Marketing Promotion Programme, Handloom Export Scheme, Mill Gate Price Scheme, Design Development and Training Programme, Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Integrated Handloom Training Project, Weavers Welfare Scheme comprising-Thrift Fund Scheme and New Insurance Scheme and Implementation of Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985. In addition to the above schemes, the following new schemes were introduced during 2005-06:

(i) Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (IHCDS),

(ii) Mahatama Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojna (MGBBY),

(iii) Health Insurance Scheme (HIS)

Several schemes, including schemes fbr Cluster Development, Life Insurance and Health Insurance announced in the last Budget 2005-06 for the Handloom Sector are being implemented. The cluster development approach will continue. It is proposed to cover an additional 100 cluster at a cost of Rs. 50.00 crore in 2006-07. Yarn depots will be established in different parts of the country to ensure uninterrupted supply of yarn to weavers. It is also proposed to launch a "handloom Mark". A scheme similar to TUFS will be introduced for the handloom sector to provide interest subsidy.